

**JOHN EBERT**  
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January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20530


Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

The current status of the American government's case against Microsoft Corporation concerns American citizens like me. It threatens the principles of free enterprise in our country. Microsoft has been targeted because of its overwhelming success and innovation. Other companies have been saddled with government oversight for the opposite reason. The American people are happiest when businesses are allowed to do what they do best without outside influence. Government interference is rarely a solution. Continued action by the government against Microsoft will likely have negative effects on the American consumer. This is no time for that.

Microsoft has attained its position in industry because it is innovative, not predatory. Microsoft has created jobs without political interference. It is an economic engine without rival.

The settlement at hand is fair and just. It should be embraced so that we can all see Microsoft get back into the business of changing people's lives through innovative software technology. Our country desperately needs engines like Microsoft to be running at full capacity again. Please consider accepting the present settlement. Everyone will receive considerable benefit. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,



John Ebert

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